

REMARKS

A Final Office Action dated 28 June 2005 allowed Claims 1-16, rejected all of the pending claims, the pending Claims 17 through 26 as obvious in light of two U.S. Patents, Ward, et al. (U.S. Patent 6,282,417) and Hogg, et al. (U.S. Patent 6,430,412). In response to the rejection, the Applicant has amended the sole remaining claim to comport with the allowed Claim 1, thereby placing the remaining claims in a condition for allowance.

Rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action has rejected the independent claim 17 as obvious given Ward in the light of Hogg. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Prior amendments made to Claims 1 and 9, placed the earlier claims in a condition for allowance. The Applicant has made amendments of the same tenor to the remaining independent claim, Claim 17 thereby placing the remaining claims, Claim 17 and Claims 18-26 depending from Claim 17 in a condition for allowance.

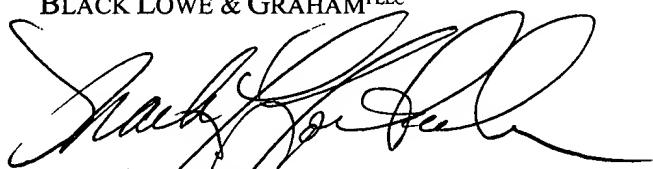
CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, the Claims 18-26 now stand in a condition for allowance as Claims 1-16 before them. The limitations present in the allowed independent claims, Claims 1 and 8 have been amended into Claim 17, and with it all of the other remaining claims, Claims 18-26.

Should the arguments or assertions set forth in this Office Action evoke questions or concerns of the Examiner, the Applicant request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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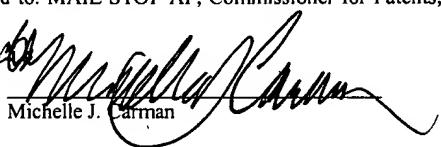


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MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

9/28/05
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Michelle J. Carman